



*Always Ready
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The Gem State Guardian

The official newsletter of the
Idaho National Guard

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**Guardian
Online Staff**
Maj. Gen. Gary Saylor
Commanding General
Maj. Chris Borders
Public Affairs Officer
Editor

IDANG dedicates 'Pride of Lewiston' – 'Pride of Moscow'

IDNG Public Affairs

BOISE, Idaho—Citizens in the two Northern Idaho communities of Lewiston and Moscow were invited to military aircraft dedication ceremonies on Wednesday Sept. 23.

The "Pride of Lewiston" was dedicated at Lewiston Nez Perce Regional Airport (LWS) while the "Pride of Moscow" received the same recognition at the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport (PUW).

Each jet is an A-10C Thunderbolt II from the 124th Fighter Wing of the Idaho Air National Guard. Aircraft crew chiefs of the wing's 124th Maintenance Group are painting permanent artwork unique to each city near the nose of the aircraft.

The aircraft, along with pilots, crew chiefs and subject matter experts were on hand to provide information on the art, the dedication and the specific aircraft.



Tech. Sgt. Kyle Walker of the 124th Fighter Wing of the Idaho Air National Guard assists Col. Timothy Donnellan, wing commander, as he steps out from the cockpit of his A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft at the Lewiston-Nez Perce Regional Airport on Sep. 23, 2015, just before addressing the Lewiston community during a ceremony dedicating the jet to the city of Lewiston. City officials from the community attended the ceremony along with interested members of the public. (Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. John Winn)

"We've developed this community recognition program to acknowledge the support and sacrifices communities and citizens here in Idaho make to defend freedom at home and abroad," said Brig. Gen. Michael Nolan, director of the Idaho Air National Guard. "We can't perform our mission without the support of family, friends, and our surrounding communities."

Historically, combat flying squadrons used nose art (creative dedications to specific people, places, or concepts) to personalize combat aircraft and boost unit morale. Artwork was in high demand during World War II, and extravagant creations highlighted unit pride and cohesion. In this tradition, the United States Air Force allows specialized artwork for aircraft that is

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State of Idaho's military mission as directed by the governor and led by the adjutant general.

The Lewiston and Moscow dedications mark the ninth and 10th dedications performed thus far, with a planned total of 21 aircraft dedications to honor 21 Idaho communities. The communities were selected according to population, an Idaho National Guard source said.

More than 1,300 Air National Guardsmen from across Idaho support the mission of the A-10C through either full-time or part-time participation in military readiness training. They support both the federal combat mission of the 124th Fighter Wing and the

Col. Timothy Donnellan, commander of the 124th Fighter Wing of the Idaho Air National Guard, speaks with a member of the Lewiston community during a ceremony dedicating an A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft to the city of Lewiston at the Lewiston-Nez Perce Regional Airport on Sep. 23, 2015. City officials from the community attended the ceremony along with interested members of the public. (Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. John

The Airmen of the Idaho Air National Guard's 124th Fighter Wing held a ceremony dedicating an A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft to the city of Lewiston at the Lewiston-Nez Perce Regional Airport on Sep. 23, 2015. City officials from the community attended the ceremony along with interested members of the public. (Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. John Winn)



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